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DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR 1947

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

1. The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research.

2. The second part of the paper discusses the methodology used in the study.

3. The third part of the paper discusses the results of the study.

4. The fourth part of the paper discusses the conclusions of the study.

5. The fifth part of the paper discusses the limitations of the study.

6. The sixth part of the paper discusses the future research.

7. The seventh part of the paper discusses the acknowledgments.

8. The eighth part of the paper discusses the references.

9. The ninth part of the paper discusses the appendices.

10. The tenth part of the paper discusses the index.

11. The eleventh part of the paper discusses the glossary.

12. The twelfth part of the paper discusses the bibliography.

13. The thirteenth part of the paper discusses the list of figures.

14. The fourteenth part of the paper discusses the list of tables.

15. The fifteenth part of the paper discusses the list of abbreviations.

16. The sixteenth part of the paper discusses the list of symbols.

17. The seventeenth part of the paper discusses the list of equations.

18. The eighteenth part of the paper discusses the list of formulas.

19. The nineteenth part of the paper discusses the list of diagrams.

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40. The fortieth part of the paper discusses the list of diagrams.

TO THE
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my report on
the Health of the Dulverton Rural District during the year 1947.

The headings are those formulated by
the Ministry of Health.



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Mr.C.H.Abbot,The Cottage,Dulverton.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:-

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Mr.P.Bawden.

Mr.T.D.Bawden.

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL:-

R.W.HALSE,Esq.,Solicitor,Clerk.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:-

(a) Part-time M.O.H.:-

G.NICHOLSON,M.D.,D.P.H.,F.R.C.S.,E.

District M.O. and Public Vaccinator: Dr.B.W.Mc.Kimney.

(b) Sanitary Surveyor & Inspector,etc;-

H...JEWELL,A.R.San.I.,M.Inst San.Engrs.,M.Inst.R.D.Surveyors,
Diploma University S.W.(Kent) .

Assistant Inspector:-

G.O.JONES,Cert R.San I.,Cert of Sanitary Knowledge,School of Hygiene ,
University of Liverpool.

Handwritten notes in a cursive script, likely a ledger or account book. The text is organized into columns and rows, with some entries starting with "1871" and "1872". The handwriting is somewhat faded and the ink is dark.

Continuation of handwritten notes in a cursive script. The text is organized into columns and rows, with some entries starting with "1873" and "1874". The handwriting is somewhat faded and the ink is dark.

Continuation of handwritten notes in a cursive script. The text is organized into columns and rows, with some entries starting with "1875" and "1876". The handwriting is somewhat faded and the ink is dark.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres.....	78,159.
Population, 1947 (estimated)	4,350.
Inhabited Houses.....	1,210.
Number of Inhabited Houses as per rate books.....	1,300.
Number of Families or separate occupiers.....	1,300.
Rateable value (reduced).....	£19,000.
Sum produced by 1d rate.....	£71.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

Good. The vast majority of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits; they appear to be exceptionally healthy in consequence.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1947.

	TOTAL	M	F	
Live Births. (Legitimate.....)	72	37	35	Birth = 17.9
(Illegitimate.....)	6	3	3) Rate =
Deaths.....	56	25	31	Death = 12.9
Still Births.....	4	3	1) Rate =

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER AGE OF 1 YEAR.

	TOTAL	M	F
Legitimate.....	7	2	5
Illegitimate.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
all infants per 1,000 live births.....			89.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births.....			97.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births.....			Nil
Deaths from Measles.....			Nil
" " Whooping Cough.....			Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under two years).....			Nil

Number of women dying of or in consequence of childbirth..... Nil

The Infantile Mortality rate is unusually high.

The statistics for England and Wales were - Rate per 1,000 of the population:-

Births - Live Births.....	20.50
" Still Births.....	.50
Deaths.....	12.00
Death rate per 1,000 births.....	41.00
(under the age of 1 year).	

There were two deaths from cancer during 1947. One occurred in the Breast and one other in the Stomach.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

There are 7 certified T.T. and 3 accredited dairies in the district and the standard of the samples obtained from them have been very high. Samples for Tubercle Bacilli were taken at regular intervals from different parts of the district and all were reported free from infection. The examination of milk for Tubercle Bacilli is carried out at the County Laboratory.

ADULTERATION.

The Council are not a Local Authority for enforcing the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Foodstuffs are submitted to the County Laboratory at Taunton.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Measles were prevalent during the year and Pneumonia was rather higher. During 1947 Dulverton district had cases of Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

VACCINATIONS.

Vaccinations carried out by the M.O.H. during 1947 - Nil.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Small Pox.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Measles.	81	-	-
Eucorpal Pyrexia.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	24	-	-
Pneumonia.	10	-	3
Other Diseases notifiable locally e.g. Chicken Pox.	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-

Pneumonia - Of the cases of the above:-

Under 1 year.....	1 cases.
1 year to 2.....	- "
2 years to 6.....	2 "
6 years to 10.....	- "
10 years to 16.....	2 "
16 years to 36.....	2 "
36 years to 75.....	3 "
Age unknown.....	- "
TOTAL CASES:-	<u>10 cases.</u>

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS. No action was taken.

HOUSING.

The Jury Road scheme for 34 houses with roads, sewers, etc is now proceeding satisfactorily as also are the four cottages for Bridgetown.

Licences issued for the building by private enterprise numbered four. Three of these are under construction.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

1. Nursing in the Home.
(a) Nursing is provided by the Somerset District Nursing Association.
There is no co-ordination with the Sanitary Authority.
(b) Infectious Diseases. No provision.
2. Midwives.
None employed or subsidied by the Local Authority.
Number of Midwives practising in the Area - 6.
3. Arrangements for the carrying out of Pathological and Bacteriological Investigation, Analysis of Foodstuffs, etc., are made with the Somerset County Laboratory.
4. Hospitals.
There are no hospitals of any description within the Area. Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases - No change.
5. Maternity and Nursing Homes.
No action has been taken under the Nursing Home Act of 1927.
6. Cases of Maternal Mortality and Puerperal Pyrexia are investigated by the County Authority.
7. There is provision for Unmarried Mothers at Exmoor House, Dulverton controlled by the Somerset County Council.
8. Institutional Provision for the care of Mental Defectives - None in the Area.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.
(1) To date nine of the largest villages have main supply.
Samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspector in various parishes during the year, and the results of these are set out in his Report.
2. Drainage.
Dulverton, Brushford and Exford have modern works.
Winsford will be covered as soon as circumstances permit.
3. Rivers and Streams Pollution. No action was considered necessary.
4. Closet Accommodation.
Improvements in the scattered cottages are constantly being made and every encouragement is given to owners to do this.
5. Schools.
(1) Kingsbrompton, Dulverton, Exford, Withypool and Brushford are the only schools having flush lavatories. Exton, however, has a piped water supply.
There is still room for improvement in the sanitary arrangements to the remainder.
(2) Public Cleansing. - See Sanitary Inspector's Report.
(3) Sanitary Inspection of the Area. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.
(4) Eradication of Bed Bugs. No action has been required up to the present.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases during 1947.				Mortality.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5	1							
10	1							
15	4							
25		1						
29	1							
35	1	5						
45	1	1			1			
55	2	1			2			
60								
and upwards								
	11	8			3			

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. No action.

Public Health Act, 1925. (Section 62). No action taken.

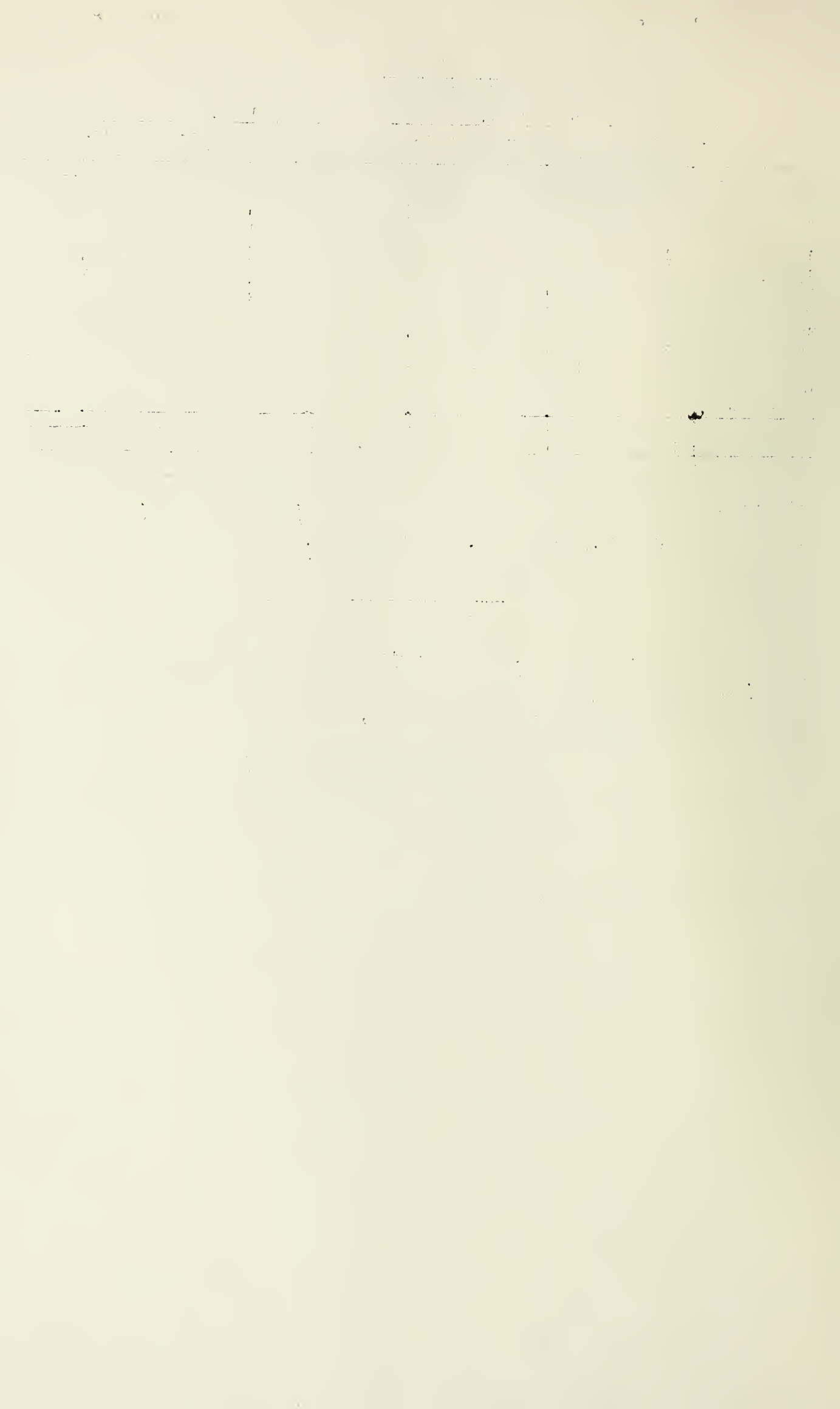
My thanks are due to Mr. Jowell for his assistance in compiling this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Medical Officer of Health.



1947.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairran and Membors of the Dulvorton Rural District Council:-

Mr.Chairman,Ladies & Gentleron,

I beg to submit my report for the period from 1st Jan to 31st December (inclusive) 1947 in accordance with Article 19 (12) of the Sanitary Officers Order,1922.

The work of the Authority continues to increase,and even with the help of a qualified assistant employed on a temporary basis,difficulty is experienced in carrying out all the duties required in an efficient runner.Travel in a scattered district of 79,000 acres occupiees much valuable time,but this is unavoidable.

As opportunity permits,a general survey of all dwellin in the district is being mdo. The results to dte show that many are in need of rep but owing to licencing difficulties it is apparent **these will become even less fit** a further survey become necessary at a later date when repair facilities become more normal.

NUISANCES AND COMPLAINTS.

Defective Cess Pits.....	5
Offensive Accumulation.....	3
Fouled Watercourses.....	8
Dirty Premises.....	8
Bad or Suspected Water Supply.....	33
Overcrowding.....	26
Animals kept in unfit places.....	2
Defective Sanitary Conveniences.....	27
Housing Complaints.....	220
Miscellaneous.....	57
Sewage and Drainage.....	30
TOTAL.....	419

Other than Cowsheds.

In addition to those mentioned under Housing Defects.

307 visits were made in connection with these,and all were remedied without the nec-
essity of issuing Statutory Notices.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

1. Meat.All slaughterhouses in the district are now closed,slaughtering being done in the Central Abbattoir at Minehead,but regular inspections are made of meat arriving at the Butcher shops.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

2. Routine Visits.....	57
Occasional Slaughtering.....	29

MEAT UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

	Whole Carcase.	Fore Quarter.	Hind Quarters.	Head.	Livers.	Lungs.	Heart.	Spleen.
Bevines.	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-
Calves.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pigs.	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-
Sheep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	-	2	2	-	5	4	-	-

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Milk.

Details of Inspection for the past year are set out as follows:-

Cowsheds and Dairy Visits.....	97
Attention was drawn to the following:-	
Defective Floors	19
Defective Drainage.....	26
Lime-washing.....	60
Dirty Floors.....	17
Fouled Approach Yards.....	50
Total:-	<u>172</u>

Water supplies to most of the cowsheds constitutes a problem, especially as the occupier and not the owner is responsible for improvement. Until the Milk and Dairies Orders are amended to make all improvements in this connection the duty of the Landlord, I am afraid the progress will be slow in this and other work in connection with cowsheds, but at the same time every effort is being made by my Council to carry out their duties under the Act.

Samples for Graded and T.T. milk are being taken by the Somerset County Council now.	
Number of Producers.....	170
Number of Distributors on the Register divided as follows:-	
(a) Distributors.....	0
(b) Distributors who are also Producers.....	170

WATER SUPPLY.

All main water schemes under the control of my Council are visited at least once weekly. The scheme for Exford is being held up mainly owing to the fact that no agreement can be reached for the purchase of the necessary land. Additional water for Dulverton is badly needed and a scheme for this purpose has already been prepared and submitted to the Minister for his consideration. During the Summer of 1947 a good deal of inconvenience was experienced in this respect and with the completion of the new housing estate and additional proposed school, will become impossible if not treated as an urgent matter.

SCAVENGING AND SALVAGE.

The value of the salvage collected over the past year has equalled a penny rate. Disposal is by incineration at the Dulverton Works. All tins are baled by a power press and there is a good market for them. The Refuse Lorry is not kept solely for this work, and when not so employed does other work in connection with this department.

HOUSING.

The rate of progress on new housing has not been in all respects satisfactory. This is accounted for in various ways, but mainly on account of difficulties, such as obtaining sufficient labour and essential materials. All roads and sewers were, however, completed towards the end of 1947. There is now a Town Planning Scheme in course of preparation for the Area. The Ribbon Development Act is controlled by the County Council.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINAGE.

Main works are installed at Dulverton, Brushford and Exford and it is hoped in the future to submit schemes for Winsford, Withypool and Brompton Regis.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

At the request of the Medical Officer of Health enquiries into all cases of Infectious Diseases were at once carried out:-

Number of Premises Visited.....	7
Number of Rooms disinfected.....	7

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Petroleum Licences granted during the year.....	48
Amount Collected.....	£20

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR.

Housing Inspections.....	1020
Housing Re-inspections.....	220
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.....	47
Cowsheds and Dairies.....	103
Factories and Workshops.....	11
Infectious Diseases.....	7
Visits in connection with Nuisances and Complaints.....	71
Visits in connection with Rats and Mice.....	58
Miscellaneous Visits.....	40
(a) Water Sampling.....	33
(b) Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal etc.....	263
Total:-	<u>1873</u>

CONCLUSION

I desire once again to express my thanks to the Chairman, Councillors and Medical Officer for their consideration and support given me during the past year, also to the Clerk and his staff for their co-operation in the work of this department.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

HORACE A. JEWELL.

Sanitary Surveyor & Inspector.

Dulverton,
Somerset.

January, 1948.

